

REMARKS

Amendments

The amendment to the Specification merely inserts the prior application information. Claim 1 is amended to be stylistically consistent with the claims of copending applications Nos. 09/819,166 and 09/819,162, and to recite the inherent limitation that the nozzles are fixed, relative to the surface (e.g. Figs. 8 and 9). These amendments provide formal antecedent basis for "the bores" and formal structural basis for "the system prints". These amendments introduce no new matter.

35USC112, first paragraph

Claim 22 recites that each printing device comprises a non-capillary chamber having a relatively larger internal diameter than and in fluid connection with the capillary. This is shown, inter alia, in Fig.7 as recognized by the Action (p.2, lines 10-14). Hence, we do not understand the basis for this rejection.

35USC103(a)

Claims 1-25 and 28-39. Feygin, US Pat. No. 5,957,167

Claims 26-27. Feygin (supra) and Thomas, US Pat. No. 5,544,535.

All the art rejections are dependent on the teachings of Feygin.

Our claims describe an open capillary printing system for printing on a substrate, essentially as shown in Figs. 8 and 9, wherein the system includes a detachable gang of printing devices, a pod, a substrate and a positioner, wherein:

the pod comprises a receptacle for reversibly attaching the gang,

the positioner moves the pod relative to the substrate,

each of the printing devices comprises a reservoir containing a different, predetermined agent unique to the reservoir, and a capillary comprising an axial bore having a proximal opening in fluid connection with the reservoir and a distal opening open to ambient pressure, and a printing tip comprising the distal opening, and which prints the agent on the substrate,

the gang comprises a nozzle surface from which protrudes a plurality of fixed nozzles,

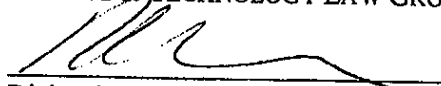
each having a proximal and a distal end, wherein the distal end comprises the printing tip, and the system comprises a positioner for decelerating the capillaries to move the agent through the bores, out the tip and onto the substrate.

Note that the printing devices comprise nozzles which provide the printing tips of the printing devices, and these nozzles protrude from a nozzle surface. Feygin describes fluid dispensing using discrete, separately actuated dispensing members. Feygin does not teach or suggest anything like printing from a surface of fixed, integrated nozzles.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned if she would like to amend the claims to clarify the foregoing or seeks further clarification of the claim language.

We petition for and authorize charging our Deposit Account No.19-0750 all necessary extensions of time. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees or credit any overcharges relating to this communication to our Dep. Acct. No.19-0750 (order IN-0012-3).

Respectfully submitted,
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